

6,111,611) in view of Otsuki et al. (U.S. Patent 5,929,932). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the following arguments.

Claim 1 recites “displaying, on a television screen, minor channel numbers of programs received through a currently selected major channel.” This feature is illustrated, for example, in Fig. 3 of the current application, which illustrates a major channel 302, and minor channels 304-310. In Fig. 3, the major channel 302 corresponds to an RF channel, and the minor channels 304-310 correspond to programs broadcast through the major channel 302. Thus, the channel numbers 302-310 are related because they all share the same major channel 302.

Neither Ozkan et al. nor Otsuki et al. disclose displaying minor channel numbers of programs received through a currently selected major channel. As admitted by the Examiner, Ozkan et al. does not disclose this feature of claim 1. Instead, the Examiner relies upon Otsuki et al. as disclosing a graphical user interface wherein the user chooses a particular category or sub-menu, such as movies, news or sports. Figure 7 of this reference illustrates sub-menus displayed on the program guide screen by a category. Otsuki et al., column 7, lines 37-55. Thus, Otsuki et al. does not display minor channel numbers of a major channel, but instead displays categories of programming. Accordingly, the Examiner’s cited references do not disclose a feature of claim 1.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and further recites that “said minor channel numbers are displayed after a currently selected major channel number.” Thus, multiple minor channel

numbers are displayed, thereby allowing the user to select from several minor channels within the same major channel.

Ozkan et al. does not disclose displaying multiple minor channel numbers after a currently selected major channel number. Instead, Ozkan et al. discloses selecting a broadcast RF channel, indicated by a bundle number 300, and selecting a sub-channel, indicated by a minor number 305. Ozkan et al., column 6, lines 18-35. Thus, Ozkan et al. does not disclose displaying multiple minor channel numbers, and therefore does not enable the user to view all of the minor channel numbers within a major channel, and to thereby select the desired minor channel.

Otsuki et al. does not overcome this deficiency in Ozkan et al. Otsuki et al. discloses setting a category of a program guide displayed on a program guide screen 132. Otsuki et al., Fig. 13; column 11, lines 33-60. Thus, while Otsuki et al. discloses arranging channels by categories, this reference does not disclose displaying minor channel numbers after a currently selected major channel number. Instead, Otsuki et al. discloses displaying major channel numbers according to categories.

Based on the above, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, and claims 2-3 and 5 depending therefrom, is requested.

Claim 7 recites "selecting a radio frequency (RF) channel corresponding to a major channel number selected by a user... and displaying minor channel numbers received through said major channel on a television screen." For similar reasons as noted above, claim 7, and claims 8-11 and 13 depending therefrom, are patentable over the Examiner's cited references.

Independent claims 17 and 18 recites similar features that distinguish these claims from the Examiner's cited references.

At page 8, item 3 of the Office Action, claims 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozkan et al. and Otsuki et al., and further in view of Youman et al. (U.S. Patent 5,629,733). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the following arguments.

Claims 4 and 6 depend from claim 1, and are therefore patentable over Ozkan et al. and Otsuki et al. for at least the above reasons. Youman et al. does not overcome the above deficiencies in Ozkan et al. and Otsuki et al., and is not relied upon by the Examiner for this purpose. Instead, the Examiner relies upon Youman et al. as disclosing hiding channels as a result of inactivity of the user. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4 and 6 is requested.

At page 9, item 4 of the Office Action, claims 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozkan et al. and Otsuki et al., and further in view of Keenan (U.S. Patent 5,629,733). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the following arguments.

Claims 12 and 14 depend from claim 7, and are therefore patentable over Ozkan et al. and Otsuki et al. for at least the above reasons. Keenan does not overcome the above deficiencies in Ozkan et al. and Otsuki et al., and is not relied upon by the Examiner for this purpose. Instead, the Examiner relies upon Keenan as disclosing an endless loop operation. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 12 and 14 is requested.

Serial No. 09/179,872

Docket No. 1317.1055/MDS/MJB

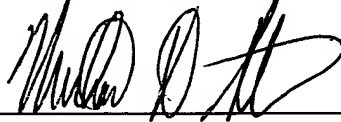
There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that affect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEYLLP



Michael D. Stein
Registration No. 37,240

700 Eleventh Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
Telephone: (202) 434-1500

Date: 6/18/01